

**Amendments to the Abstract:**

Please replace the Abstract, paragraph [127] found at page 141, with the following amended Abstract:

5 [0127] A method and apparatus for dynamically balancing the loading of video data  
storage devices ~~facilities containing video data files to facilitates~~ the transfer of the  
video data files ~~or portions of video data files from a file server system to client~~  
computing system. ~~The method for balancing a loading of a storage device~~  
~~attached to multiple computing begins by acquiring a listing of locations and loading~~  
10 ~~of all segments of a requested video data object including all copies of the~~  
~~segments of the requested data object.~~ Those storage devices containing copies  
of each segment of the video data object ~~having a least loading~~ are selected. If the  
loading of the storage devices exceed their maximum capacity, ~~is greater than the~~  
~~maximum loading for the storage devices,~~ the segment is divided into sub-  
15 segments and stored to storage devices with minimum loading. The presence of  
all segments of the requested video data object ~~is determined.~~ If there are missing  
segments of the requested video data object, each of those missing segments is  
assigned a file identification and file location, such that those missing segments are  
retrieved from a back-up storage device and assigned to data storage devices  
20 having the least loading. ~~The missing segments are retrieved from a back-up~~  
~~storage device.~~ The segments of the requested data object are then transferred  
for transfer to a requesting computer system.